

I am appealing against this planning refusal as I believe the proposed development makes an efficient use of a property which has been empty for almost 4 years.

The change to become a residential property would, of course, be entirely consistent with the government's objective of significantly boosting the supply of new homes.

The property retains its original facade as a residential home along with many of the original Victorian features throughout the building.

Given that the application involves only the change of use of the existing building and that the external staircase proposed is located to the rear of the site the development would clearly preserve the existing character, charm and appearance of the building.

Unlike neighbouring properties this house, over the last 30 years, has not been used as a shop, walk-in business or interacted with other businesses within Havant. A change of use would not therefore in any way have a negative impact on local business activity, on the contrary, two new domestic dwellings would bring new life to the building and income to the surrounding area.

The proposed development would provide smaller affordable market housing commensurate with that already found in the area and is ideally situated close to public transport links and Havant Town centre.

Having regard to relevant development plan policy it is contended that the development, as proposed, has every regard to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The change of use allows for the efficient use of the site, further it makes provision towards much needed housing which is in strong demand in the area.

It is therefore contended that there can be no reasonable objection to the proposed development.

The Environmental agency's recent report clearly states the site is within flood zone 1 and there are a number of properties, including the adjacent property, which have been granted planning permission to become residential. To refuse planning permission on this site due to flood risk seems inconsistent to say the least.

It is contended that the proposed development would represent an efficient use of the site, in a sustainable location and in a sustainable form, whilst paying due regard to existing development densities, prevailing character, residential amenity and highway safety. It would also preserve the appearance of the St Faiths Conservation Area.

It is therefore respectfully requested this planning permission refusal be overturned.

